

Every spring, along with improving weather, the police department receives an influx of inquiries regarding children operating motor-assisted scooters. The following is a general overview of the rules and requirements concerning these vehicles:

Motor-assisted scooters are designed to have not more than three wheels on the ground. They are equipped with handlebars and a foot board or seat for the operator to use. They may be gas or electric-powered. The gas-powered engines displace 35cc or less. The electric-powered engines have a power output of less than 1,000 watts. Similar vehicles with larger or more powerful engines may be considered mopeds or motorcycles and have more restrictive rules.

Operators must be at least 16 years old and eligible for a driver license to drive a motor-assisted scooter. Their maximum allowed speed is 15mph. Motor-assisted scooters may be operated on public roadways that have a 25mph speed limit or less. They must ride as close to the right shoulder as practical when operating below the normal speed of traffic. If the speed limit is greater than 25mph, the scooter must be operated in the bicycle lane. Motor-assisted scooters cannot be operated on sidewalks.

Motor-assisted scooter operators of all ages are required to wear a bicycle helmet. Use of lights is required when operating during limited visibility. Passengers are never allowed.

Liability insurance and vehicle registration are not required for motor-assisted scooters.

Please contact the Newberg-Dundee Police Department for further clarification, if needed.

Sr. Ofc. Huntley Miller

Newberg-Dundee Police Department

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